

Welcome to:

# VERS-CATT Leader Orientation Webcast



1200 – 1330 Central Time

Discussion Leaders: Richard Kasul and Sam Franco (ERDC)

- To access the audio, please dial 1-xxx-xxx-xxxx, passcode xxxxx.
- For technical problems, please call 601-634-4397.
- Click View, then Full Screen Mode for a full screen view.

## Web Conference Etiquette

- Press **mute button** or **\*6** on your phone to reduce background noise. To talk, release the mute button or press \*6 again.
- **Please do not put your phone on hold at anytime** during the conference—the background music will be distracting to all.

# VERS Modernization Material on the NRM Gateway

The screenshot shows a Mozilla Firefox browser window displaying the "Natural Resources Management Gateway" website. The page features a green header with the US Army Corps of Engineers logo and a navigation bar with links like Home, Visitors, Lake Discovery, Recreation, Env Compliance, Env Stewardship, and Partners. A vertical sidebar on the left is labeled "Use Surveys". The main content area is titled "VERS Modernization Effort" and contains a paragraph about the next generation of the VERS system, a list of links for modernization overview, recreation area evaluation, and updates, and a sidebar with a list of links including Home, VERS (Visitation Estimation & Reporting System), Policy & Procedures, OMB approved surveys, Headquarters' Perspective, Related Sites, Division & District POCs, Corps of Engineers, Traffic-stop Recreation Use Surveys, and VERS Modernization Efforts. A footer note mentions "Technical Problems Updated May 2009".

VERS Modernization Effort - Mozilla Firefox

http://corpslakes.usace.army.mil/employees/usurveys/modern.cfm

VERS Modernization Effort

Natural Resources Management Gateway  
to the future . . .

Home Visitors Lake Discovery Recreation Env Compliance Env Stewardship Partners  
News/Events People Forums Learning GETS Tools New Postings Submit Index/Search ?

VERS Modernization Effort

Postings about the next generation of the VERS system will be made available on this page as they become available. Some of the postings will be informational. Others will contain draft plans and procedures on which you will be able to provide feedback. Still others will be used to organize and facilitate visitation survey planning activities between ERDC and the field.

Please check back periodically for new postings

- [Modernization Overview](#)
- [Recreation Area and Traffic Meter Evaluation Exercise](#)
- [VERS-CATT Charter](#)
- [VERS Update](#) (March 2010 NRM Conference PowerPoint Slides)

- [Home](#)
- [VERS \(Visitation Estimation & Reporting System\)](#)
- [Policy & Procedures](#)
- [OMB approved surveys](#)
- [Headquarters' Perspective](#)
- [Related Sites](#)
- [Division & District POCs](#)
- [Corps of Engineers](#)
- [Traffic-stop Recreation Use Surveys](#)
- [VERS Modernization Efforts](#)

Technical Problems  
Updated May 2009

## VERS Modernization Page

## Getting There:

The screenshots illustrate the process of finding the VERS Modernization Effort page. The first screenshot shows the Mozilla Firefox Start Page with the Google search bar. The second screenshot shows the Google search results for "vers modernization", displaying the VERS Modernization Effort page as the top result.

Mozilla Firefox Start Page - Mozilla Firefox

http://www.google.com/firefox?client=firefox-...

Mozilla Firefox Start Page

Web Images Videos Maps News Shopping Books more

Firefox Start

Google

VERS Modernization

Google Search

What do you?

vers modernization - Google Search - Mozilla Firefox

http://www.google.com/search?client=firefox-...

vers modernization - Google Search

Web Images Videos Maps News Shopping Gmail more

Web History | Search settings | Sign in

Google

vers modernization

About 10,900,000 results (0.31 seconds)

Advanced search

Everything

Images

Videos

More

Show search tools

VERS Modernization Effort

VERS Modernization Effort. Postings about the next generation of the VERS system will be made available on this page as they become available. ...

corpslakes.usace.army.mil/employees/usurveys/modern.cfm - Cached

VERS Modernization Effort

Recreation Area and Traffic Meter Evaluation Exercise. This exercise is the first step in VERS modernization that requires project participation. ...

corpslakes.usace.army.mil/employees/usurveys/meter.html - Cached

Show more results from corpslakes.usace.army.mil

8 - Post-transformation vs. modernization - The Transformation of ...

8 - Post-transformation vs. modernization. Conclusions. Authors: Konstantin Axenov; Isolde Brade; Evgenij Bondarchuk. Series: BASEES/Routledge Series on ...

www.informaworld.com/...content=content=a765558129-db=all-jumptype=rss

Beijing Hutong Tradition Vs. Modernization, an Internet Lesson by ...

Tradition Vs. Modernization. Pre-reading / Predicting. 1. Draw a picture of a typical traditional Chinese residential complex with your imagination ...

www.cita.net/lessons/chinese/hutong.html - Cached - Similar

Modernization theory - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Modernization theory is a theory used to explain the process of Modernization within ...

Print/export. Create a book. Download as PDF - Printable version ...

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Modernization\_theory - Cached - Similar

Westernization vs Modernization

Nov 24, 2009 ... adopting modernization means moving along with the world and being able to be competitive with them so we need to adapt modern ways in a few ...

westernizationmodernization.blogspot.com/ - Cached

# Purpose of Webcast

- Introduce the VERS - Coach, Assist, and Train Team (VERS-CATT) concept.
- Explain how the VERS-CATT will support visitation monitoring and reporting.
- Describe your role as District VERS-CATT Leader
- Discuss initial VERS-CATT activities

# Current Situation

## Corps Visitation Monitoring Philosophy

- Each project establishes and operates it's own monitoring program
- ERDC provides tools and guidance and maintains the visitation statistics reported by projects

## VERS Realities at Many Projects

- Visitation monitoring is one of many project responsibilities
- It is seldom a high priority
- It often administered by the least experienced ranger
- VERS knowledge has been lost over time

# VERS Modernization

**Main Goal:** Sustainable improvement in consistency of visitation estimates from Project to Project.

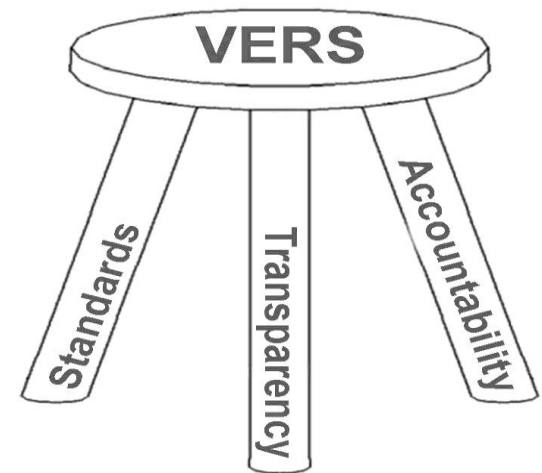
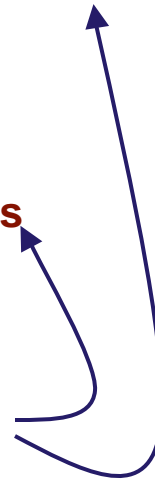
## Introducing:

- **Transparency:** Making visibly known what is currently being done.
- **Standards:** Clarifying the procedures and practices everyone should follow.
- **Accountability:** Ensuring procedures and practices adhere to established standards.

**VERS Area / Meter Inventory**

**Best Practices**

**VERS-CATT**



**Institutional Supports  
for VERS System**

# VERS-CATT- Overview

## What is the VERS-CATT?

- VERS: Visitation Estimation and Reporting System
- CATT: Coach, Assist, and Train Team

## Goals of VERS-CATT

- Help projects achieve and sustain a high level of compliance with VERS Best Practices

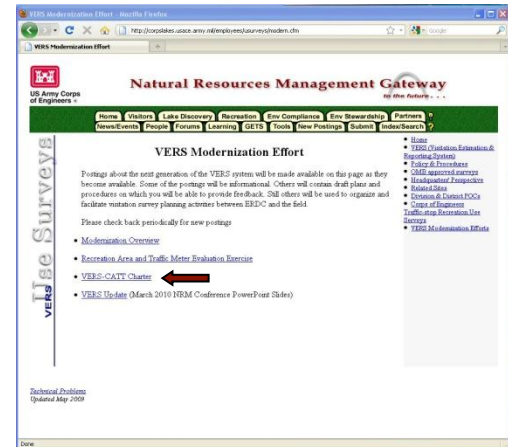
## What VERS-CATT will do

- Oversee monitoring activities at Projects within District
- Help projects comply with visitation monitoring Best Practices
- Work with ERDC to identify / resolve difficult monitoring challenges
- Annually communicate status of visitation monitoring in the District.

# VERS-CATT Charter

## Team Composition

- District VERS-CATT Leader
- Members (1-3) to assist Leader, if needed
  - From District and/or Project
- Member from ERDC
- VERS-CATT Chair (chosen from District CATT Leaders)



Charter is available on NRM Gateway  
VERS Modernization page

## District VERS-CATT Leader

- Become the source of visitation monitoring expertise in your District
  - VERS system
  - Best Practices
- Role Within the District:
  - Work with Projects to improve visitation monitoring and reporting practices
  - Ensure that Projects comply with Best Practices
- Role Outside the District:
  - Work with ERDC to identify / resolve monitoring challenges
  - Annual Visitation Monitoring Assessment Report

# **Role of VERS-CATT Leaders in Implementing Next Generation VERS**

- Help Projects finalize VERS Area/Meter Inventory
- Participate in OMBIL PSA realignment
- Identify and oversee traffic meter realignments, where needed
- Help coordinate preparations for new surveys



# Role of VERS-CATT Leaders in Sustaining Visitation Monitoring Program Long-Term

- Ensure that VERS area / meter inventory data is complete and up to date
- Ensure VERS best practices are followed
  - Areas are appropriately metered
  - Metering re-assessed whenever changes at recreation area
  - Meters are maintained and operating
- In cooperation with ERDC, help projects resolve difficult visitation monitor / estimation issues
- Ensure new Project VERS people are trained in VERS procedures and practices
  - Monitoring / meter reading
  - Data entry
  - Meter maintenance / replacement
- Work through VERS-CATT Chair to:
  - Ensure consistent implementation of best practices from District to District
  - Improve efficiency and effectiveness of VERS
- Keep national program apprised of status of visitation monitoring in District
  - Periodic visitation monitoring assessment report

# First Major VERS-CATT Activity

## Finalizing the Area/Meter Inventory Data



### Recreation Area Maps

- Recreation area layout
- Visitor access points
- Monitoring device locations

The screenshot shows an Excel spreadsheet with the following data:

Recreation Area	Area Status Check	What agencies or organizations provide visitor services at this recreation area?	Which diagram best matches the access road configuration for this recreation area?	How many vehicle and pedestrian traffic counters are in use at this recreation area?
CARTERS LAKE MARINA	OK	CE concessionaire	A Single site with single access point	1
CARTERS LAKE POWER PLANT	OK	CE	A Single site with single access point	1
DAMSTE	OK	CE	A Single site with single access point	1
DOLL MT CAMPGROUND	OK	CE	A Single site with single access point	1
DOLL MT DAY USE	OK	CE	A Single site with single access point	1
HARRIS BRANCH	OK	CE	A Single site with single access point	1
NORTHBANK	OK	CE	A Single site with single access point	1
RIVERO DAM	OK	CE	A Single site with single access point	1
ROGUEWAY PARK	OK	CE	D More complex situation	2
WOODRING CAMPGROUND	OK	CE	A Single site with single access point	1
WOODRING DAY USE	OK	CE	A Single site with single access point	1

### Project Workbooks

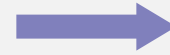
- Provide area / meter facts relevant to visitation monitoring
- Identify visitation monitoring setup characteristics
- Identify PSA's to be re-defined in OMBIL
- Identify meters to be moved or adjusted
- Identify situations posing special monitoring challenges

**Why:** Many submissions contain incomplete or inaccurate map / workbook entries

**How:** Train you to conduct face-to-face working meeting with Projects to complete and correct submissions

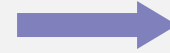
# Other To Do Items

1. Verify that all projects have submitted maps and workbooks



VERS Area/Meter Exercise Page

2. Enter names of Project VERS POC's into SmartBook



Project VERS POC Page

3. Send me a list of Projects reporting visitation directly into OMBIL, rather than into VERS

- Send to [Richard.L.Kasul@usace.army.mil](mailto:Richard.L.Kasul@usace.army.mil)

4. 1<sup>st</sup> Webcast in VERS Educational Series: Overview of Visitation Monitoring and Estimation

# The Initial Review

- In general – the maps and notebooks were not as good as we had hoped for.
- We received a complete mixed bag.
- There were some good maps, but not nearly enough. Most maps had a majority of the required elements, but not all of them.
- Many of the workbooks were not complete. A lot of differences between the notebook and the maps were found.

# The Clean UP

- We tried direct Emails back to the projects followed up by phone calls.
- With thousands of maps and cross referencing the notebooks it became apparent that this was going to be a time consuming affair.
- We decided to try district workshops to determine if we could bring an entire district's maps and notebooks up-to-date in a three day period.

# The Workshops

- Little Rock District – March 2-4
- Nashville District – May 25-27
- Mobile District – June 15-17

Each District provided a workshop space with Internet connection and the workshop was attended by the district VERS CATT member, someone from each project and an ERDC staff member.

After a review of mapping and notebook requirements project staff updated their data which was reviewed by the CATT member until meeting minimal requirements.

# The Next Step

- 28 Districts to process
- ERDC proposes to train the VERS CATT member for each district and have them conduct a three day work shop for their district.
- The VERS CATT workshop would take two days.
- Centrally located locations with one or two divisions at each workshop
- Total of four CATT workshops